FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 MAY 1984

Gulf Conflict

Khark Siege — Iraqi aircraft attacked a "big maritime target" in the exclusion zone south of Khark Island, a military spokesman announced in a statement reported by INA. The planes scored accurate and effective hits, he added. Meanwhile, Iraq warned that it will "destroy" Khark Island if Iran launches a new "aggression" on the Iraqi border and if it continues to reject a peaceful solution to the conflict, according to an article in *ATH-THAWRAH* cited by INA. *ATH-THAWRAH* stated that the siege of Khark and other Iranian ports will be intensified in the next few days, adding that Iraq has postponed the destruction of the island to allow time for further peace efforts and to give the Iranian leaders a "last chance" to reconsider their stands.

Diplomatic Developments — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz delivered a message from President Saddam Husayn to King Fahd during a short visit to Saudi Arabia, INA and SPA noted. In Kuwait a Defense Ministry source cited by KUNA refused to comment on reports that Kuwait has expressed interest in purchasing Stinger antiaircraft missiles from the United States. A source in the ministry also disclosed that the Kuwaiti defense minister discussed his forthcoming visit to the USSR during a meeting with the Soviet ambassador, according to KUNA.

PDRY Statement — A PDRY Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Aden radio denounced U.S. military movements in the Gulf as preparations for military intervention in the internal affairs of Gulf countries. The statement called on the parties concerned to end the war and stressed the need for freedom of navigation and respect for the sovereignty of Gulf countries.

Iran

Khomeyni Speech — Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, in remarks reported by Tehran radio, warned the clergy and other public speakers to remain united, asserting that if their words give rise to differences they will be reprimanded by Islam. He observed that differences among the clergy will lead to divisions within the nation and expressed concern over "mysterious hands" which seek to exacerbate such differences. Khomeyni asserted that the United States knows that it lacks the courage to enter Iran, adding that Iran should instead be afraid of U.S. "agents" inside the country who seek to create division.

Gendarmerie Operation — Three Gendarmerie divisions assisted by government forces are carrying out operations against "counterrevolutionaries" in Kordestan and Western Azarbayjan, according to remarks by the Gendarmerie commander reported by Tehran radio. The commander claimed that 200 "counterrevolutionaries," including a number of their "ringleaders," have been killed in the ongoing operation which began on 17 May.

Lebanon

The government's policy statement was presented to the Chamber of Deputies on 31 May by Prime Minister Rashid Karami. The statement, broadcast textually by Beirut radio, reaffirms faith in a nonaligned foreign policy "without abandoning our friendships ... or our affiliation with the Arab and international families which we cannot do without." The government plans to create a security force "that will guarantee the extention of the state's sovereignty over every inch of territory under occupation," rehabilitate and strengthen the Army, and draft a new constitution within the next year.

Earlier, after a Cabinet meeting which approved details of the security arrangements plan to be submitted to the Chamber, Karami blamed the Phalangist Lebanese Forces for beginning a wave of kidnappings at the crossing points between East and West Beirut, according to Beirut radio. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon criticized Karami for making "false accusations" and held the Amal Movement responsible for the kidnappings.

Syria

Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko received Vice President Rif'at al-Asad on 31 May, TASS reported. The talks took place in the friendly and cordial atmosphere that characterizes Soviet-Syrian relations, the agency added. The Syrian religious trusts minister and the chairman of the Soviet Council for Religious Affairs issued a joint statement stressing the need for a "peace conference" attended by senior religious leaders from Asia, Africa, Europe, and America, according to SANA. Meanwhile, the Syrian minister of state for planning affairs described the recent meetings of the Syrian-Soviet joint cooperation committee as successful, noting that the two sides signed several protocols and contracts on construction work, SANA reported.

PLO Affairs

The Fatah Central Committee met in Tunis to draw up a comprehensive plan for the reorganization of "legitimate Palestinian structures and institutions," Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. The radio added that the committee would also discuss the results of Fatah's dialogue with the PFLP and DFLP as well as issues concerning "Palestinian struggle action."

Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan disclosed that the planned PNC meeting will take place in the second week of July, according to KUNA.

Afghanistan

The Panjsher district has been cleared of "counterrevolutionary" elements and is now ready for the return of its inhabitants, Kabul radio announced.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Panjsher District Purged of Rebels; Villagers Return
LD301647 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] The Panjsher District, which has been purged of the filth of counterrevolutionary elements and the enemies of peace and tranquillity of the persecuted people of Panjsher by the heroic Armed Forces of the country, is now ready to receive the people of that district.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reported today from Mahmud-e Raqi that 24 families comprising 120 women, men, and children who, as a result of the oppression and brutality of the terrorist band of Ahmad Shah, that devoted servant of reaction and imperialism, had left their homes and were residing in the villages of the Kuhestan District, Kapisa Province, returned recently to their homes.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that these families were settled at their homes and resumed their life with full confidence.

Rebels, Equipment Captured in Jowzjan Province
LD301635 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] A 45-man band of rebels led by Qari Fazl Manan that had for some time disrupted the peaceful life of the toiling people of the Sangcharak District, Jowzjan Province, was recently brought to its knees as a result of the courage and revolutionary fight by the tribal brigade of (Sorma Qala) village in that district with the cooperation of the toiling people of the locality. A number of them were captured.

A spokesman for the security forces of the Sangcharak District, Jowzjan Province, said that 1 DShK, 25 assorted weapons, 1 rocket launcher, 2,600 rounds of ammunition, and 40 horses were seized from them. During the operation numerous caches of equipment and weapons of the counterrevolutionaries were also completely destroyed. The BIA correspondent reports that the toiling people of Sangcharak District held a gathering and expressed happiness at the elimination of this criminal band.

Report of Famine in Country Refuted
LD310619 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Kabul, May 30, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BIA writes: Francis Damoza has published a false report in London saying that there is famine in Afghanistan. The fabricator of the sham report is a member of the Commission on Emergency Food Supply Research and the Committee for Afghanistan's Support of the International Relief Institute.

The Commission on Emergency Food Supply is the very commission which initiated for the first time the notorious doctrine of "food for the support of Western interest." And it was under this doctrine that the U.S. imperialism tied the recipients of wheat to give their support to the aggressive policy of the United States. [sentence as received] The so-called Committee for Afghanistan's Support was established in 1980. This committee has the charge of passing false reports on Afghanistan as well as to collect military information under the cover of research programmes.

Despite the undeclared war of imperialism and reaction against the DRA, the people of Afghanistan do not have any problems as to the obtaining of foodstuffs at the lowest possible price. The reporter has not pinpointed in his report which part of the country faces food shortage let alone famine.

According to the statistics of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reforms four million hectares of land were cultived wheat and other cereals in the last Afghan year (ended 19 March 1984). [sentence as received] The quantity of land under cultivation in the current year is far more than the last year. Over 590 thousand landless peasants have received land and they enthusiastically sow their land.

The volumes of agricultural gross national product in the current Afghan year will amount in monetary terms to 88.1 billion afghanis. The reason for such a rise of agricultural production is the extensive assistance given by the Government of the DRA to the peasants and agricultural cooperatives in the form of subsidies and other types of assistance. For example, the government has distributed to them over 112 thousand tons of chemical fertilizer and 13 thousand tons of sowing seeds in one year only.

It is expected that the agricultural output of the current Afghan year is higher by six percent as compared to the last year. The machinery and tractors are active in this sector, and the agricultural cooperatives have expanded throughout the country.

The Soviet Union also renders timely assistance to the DRA in this respect.

Thus, there is no reason for the shortage of foodstuffs and other primary goods let alone for famine in Afghanistan. [as received]

Islamic Affairs Department Announces Ramadan
LD310606 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Kabul, May 30, BAKHTAR — The Department of Islamic Affairs and the High Council of Scholars and Clergymen of the DRA has announced May 31 as the first day of holy month of Ramadan (fasting month).

The announcement congratulates the Afghan people on the advent of the blessed month and has wished them every success for fulfilling their religious obligations in a democratic and free atmosphere.

Materials on Continuing Sectarian Violence in North

Casualties in Punjab

BK310310 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] In Punjab, one woman and her husband were injured when some miscreants opened fire at their house in a village near Batala in Gurdaspur District last night.

One person was killed when the security forces opened fire in a bid to apprehend the suspect during a routine check of vehicles near (Harike) in Ferozepore District.

In Taran Taran in Amritsar District, some miscreants fired at a Border Security Force [BSF] vehicle from inside a religious place. The BSF also returned the fire. No casualty was reported.

A home guard patrolling party last night averted an attempt to sabotage the railway track near (Thapar) in Patiala District last night.

'Appeasement' Policy Blasted

BK301621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, has said two persons were killed in yesterday's incidents in Srinagar. One of them died of a bullet injury, while the other by stone pelting. He said three civilians who received injuries are in the hospital; 244 policemen were also injured.

The chief minister said 267 persons have been arrested in Srinagar, Anantnag, and Baramula. He alleged that yesterday's incidents were part of the attempt to topple his government. The chief minister said that the situation in the valley is normal today.

The vice president of the Jammu and Kashmir Congress-I, Mr Gulam Rasool (Khar), member of Parliament, has said yesterday's violent incidents in Srinagar were a direct outcome of the appeasement policy of the chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, toward secessionists and communalists. In a statement in Srinagar today, he said the demonstrations virtually harmed the age-old communal amity in the state.

In another statement in New Delhi, eight other Congress-I MP's have said the violence in Srinagar should open the eyes of all patriotic people to the serious danger to national security and communal harmony. The signatories to the statement include Mr K.K. Tiwari, Mr P.M. Sayeed and Mr Jagdish Tytler.

Legislators Assail Kashmir Lawlessness

BK310348 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Four Congress-I leaders in Jammu and Kashmir have urged the governor, Mr Jagmohan, to intervene in view of what they said [is a] breakdown in law and order situation in the state. In a statement in Jammu, the state Congress-I committee general secretary, Mr Mangat Ram Sharma, and three other party legislators said recent incidents in the Kashmir valley have clearly demonstrated that the law and order authorities have lost control of the situation in the state.

Demonstrations, Agitation Planned

BK301321 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 30 May 84

[Mark Tully report in the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] At least 10 people have been killed in the northern Indian state of Punjab in the worst outbreak of violence between Hindus and Sikhs in the past few weeks. A Hindu organization has now threatened to start demonstrations in Punjab, and the Sikh religious party, the Akali Dal, has said it will resume its agitation for religious and political concessions on Sunday. Mark Tully reports from Delhi:

[Begin Mark Tully recording] Two of the people killed by Sikh terrorists were policemen belonging to the paramilitary Border Security Force. The terrorists fired on their picket in the town of Tarn Taran near the Sikh holy city of Amritsar. In one of the other incidents, Mr Chamal Lal Kholi, a leaders of the Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party, was shot in his shop in Amritsar. One of his customers died also. Another prominent member of the Hindu organization was shot on Saturday.

There has also been an exchange of fire between paramilitary police and terrorists in the vicinity of the Golden Temple in Amritsar. This is the third incident of firing in that vicinity within the last week. The Sikh extremist leader, Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, and some of his followers have sought sanctuary inside the temple.

The leader of the newly formed Hindu Defense Army has warned the government that he will start what he calls a noncooperation movement from next Friday if his organization's demands are not met. They include the arrest of those responsible for the terrorist killings.

The Sikh religious party, the Akali Dal, plans to revive its agitation for political and religious demands on Sunday. In the first stage, the party will attempt to prevent the government moving grains from Punjab to other states. Punjab is the main granary of India.

The governor of Punjab has held discussions on the law and order situation with Mrs Gandhi. Although the police and paramilitary have had more success recently in arresting terrorists, the prime minister is known to be still very concerned about the situation in Punjab. [end recording]

Night Curfew Lifted in Bombay, Bhiwandi Areas

BK310928 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Curfew has been totally lifted in parts of Bombay city and Bhiwandi town in Thane District. Dusk-to-dawn curfew was

imposed in nine areas of Bombay city on the 18th of this month in the wake of riots. Last week, day curfew in Bhiwandi and in Bombay city was lifted, but night curfew continued till last night.

Appointments of Key State Governors Reported

BK310946 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Mr S.M.H. Burney, governor of Manipur, Nagaland, and Tripura, has been appointed governor of Haryana in place of Mr G.D. Tapase. The retired general, K.V. Krishna Rao, will be the new governor of Manipur, Nagaland, and Tripura.

Mr Kona Prabhakaratt Rao, lieutenant governor of Pondicherry, has been appointed governor of Sikkim in place of Mr Taleyarkhan. Mr S.L. Khurana, governor of Tamil Nadu, will also be the administrator of the union territory of Pondicherry until a successor is appointed to Mr Kona Prabhakaratt Rao.

These appointments take effect from the date they assume change.

Accord Signed With USSR on Satellite Systems

BK270948 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement on intersystem coordination of the Soviet geostationary satellite networks with those of the Indian INSAT system. The agreement was signed by the Soviet deputy chief of external relations, Dr (B.I. Chirkov) [position and name as heard], and the wireless adviser to the Government of India, Mr T.V. Srirangan, in New Delhi yesterday. According to the agreement, the two sides will make suitable adjustments and modifications in the systems to facilitate harmonious coexistence.

West Bengal Chief Minister on Ties With PRC

BK310932 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] China is keen on establishing closer relations with India. This was emphasized by the Chinese Communist Party leaders in their discussions with the West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, during the latter's visit to China early this month. Talking to newsmen in Calcutta, Mr Basu said he had told the Chinese leaders that India is equally interested in having better ties with China.

Outcome of Rasgotra-Naik Meetings Assessed

BK310636 Bombay TIMES OF INDIA in English 25 May 84 p 8

[Editorial: "Limited Advance"]

[Text] It is gratifying that foreign secretaries of both India and Pakistan have expressed satisfaction on the progress of their four-day talks in Islamabad which concluded on Wednesday. Even more significantly, General Ziaul Haq has himself appreciated the good work done by Mr. M.K. Rasgotra and Mr. Niaz Naik. The Pakistan President made his statement, hailing the improvement in the "tone and quality" of Indo-Pakistan relations, after Mr. Rasgotra had called on him for a 45-minute discussion. Judging by what the Indian foreign secretary has said on return home, some more "areas of convergence" have been found in the ongoing dialogue on the treaty of peace and friendship, proposed by India, and a no-war pact offered by Pakistan. The next round of talks on the subject will take place in New Delhi in July when the Pakistan foreign minister, Mr. Yaqub Ali Khan, arrives here for a meeting of the India-Pakistan joint commission. In other words, the interval between the present round and the next one will be much shorter than that between it and the preceding one. This too is a welcome sign. But when all is said and done it would be wholly premature to jump to the conclusion that the signing of either a friendship treaty or a non-aggression pact is around the corner.

This is so because differences between the two sides on the two key issues remain as wide as before. One of these is the Indian suggestion that neither country should give military bases to any foreign power; the other than they should solve all their disputes bilaterally — a principle which is the bedrock of the Simla agreement which both countries are committed to upholding. It can be no mere coincidence that even during the Rasgotra-Naik talks two interviews of Gen Zia, given to western media, appeared in both India and Pakistan categorically stating that the Indian proposals regarding foreign bases and bilateralism are totally unacceptable to him. This need not be his final position on the subject and he may resile from it to accommodate the Indian view, just as he had earlier reversed his initial stand that the no-war pact did not apply to Kashmir. But it is only realistic to recognise that prolonged and painstaking negotiations will be needed before the gap between Islamabad and New Delhi on what is, after all, the gut issue can be bridged. Meanwhile, two decisions taken by the two foreign secretaries on what some may be tempted to call side issues need to be applauded. They have not only signed an agreement to facilitate group travel and tourism between the two countries but also agreed to reduce some of the irritants in the vexatious visa system between India and Pakistan. This, combined with the resolve to increase the frequency and the pace of high-level visits between the two countries, should go some way to improve the atmosphere for future negotiations on the bigger questions on the anvil.

Editorial Reviews Visit by Vice President Bush

BK281630 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 17 May 84 p 6

[Editorial: "Useful Visit"]

[Text] The U.S. vice-president's visit to Delhi was low-key but useful in continuing a high-level dialogue between the political leadership of the two countries that can contribute to a better understanding of one another's concerns and perspectives. Mr George Bush was not on a fire-fighting or problem-solving mission. But both sides appear to have found the conversations satisfactory. As vice-president, Mr Bush is both a senior aide to the President and presides over the Senate, which places him in

a position of congressional vantage. This was his first direct exposure to South Asia and he has gone away reiterating the sentiment he uttered on arrival here, namely that the U.S. sees India as a "pivotal power and key element" in South Asia.

The Vice-President has gone on to Islamabad and has given expression there to his country's friendship and support for Pakistan, which is also perceived as something of a front-line state, bordering Soviet-occupied Afghanistan and Iran. This does not imply hostility to India, and Mr Bush was at pains to state that the U.S. is not encircling India by promoting friendship with its neighbours; nor does it wish to see India threatened in any way. One must accept this, rather than continue to read diabolical meaning into the agreement signed some three years ago for the supply of American arms to Pakistan, including F-16's which have come to occupy a special position in Indian demonology. Mr Bush was candid in stating that the U.S. could not guarantee that Pakistan would not use its arms against India. But the initiative here surely rests with India in moving forward boldly and imaginatively to conclude a treaty of friendship and non-aggression with Pakistan. The U.S. is, however, concerned with Pakistan's nuclear ambitions and this is an area where it might bring pressure on Islamabad. Whatever the U.S. criticism of India's stance on Afghanistan and other issues it is mindful that NAM [Nonaligned Movement] is now steering a more even course under Mrs Gandhi. Bilateral Indo-U.S. economic and cultural relations have steadily improved and this trend should be reinforced.

2,000 Dead in 2 Months From Enteric Diseases

BK301651 Hong Kong AFP in English 1527 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] New Delhi, May 30 (AFP) — Nearly 2,000 people have died of various enteric diseases, including bacillery dysentery and gastroenteritis, in India in the past two months, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported today. Bacillary dysentery, the main killer, reportedly travelled to India from Bangladesh.

Half a dozen states have been affected, with the most seriously hit being West Bengal, where officials said 1,759 people had died. Tripura, Assam, Bihar, and Orissa were also hit.

Official reports quoted by PTI from Gauhati, capital of Assam State which borders Bangladesh, said the epidemics had killed 205 people and affected 44,000 others there. Worst hit was Nowgong District with 85 deaths.

PTI said unconfirmed reports suggested the overall death toll was much higher but mentioned no estimates. An extensive drive to check the diseases is in progress, PTI said.

Officials of Nepal and India ended a two-day meeting in Lucknow, northern India, yesterday after deciding on new methods to check Malaria in border districts, a separate PTI dispatch said. PTI did not specify the new methods but added that the officials also decided to hold a quarterly exchange of information on malaria and agreed on the need for a joint system for immediate exchange of information. They will hold their next meeting in Katmandu in September or October.

Reports in some Indian newspapers recently suggested that the incidence of Malaria in this country has shown "a general decline" in recent years but that health officals were still concerned about the spreading of the fatal falciparum strain. This killer variety was previously detected mostly in Assam but was reported to have spread to the states of Kashmir, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Goa, and to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the Bay of Bengal. Estimates said 1.9 million Indians were afflicted with disease last year, with the falciparum strain accounting for about 10 to 20 percent of the cases.

UN Envoy Views GCC's Resolution in Security Council

LD301901 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Washington, May 30 IRNA — The foreign ministers of the (Persian) Gulf Cooperation Council (P) GCC are seeking a political end to the recent crisis in the region because they see military confrontation would not be in their benefit, Iran's envoy to the United Nations said today.

Seyyed Rajaie-Khorassani said the present draft resolution by the six Arab states in the Persian Gulf which has not condemned Iraq for attacks on shipping did not have a chance to be adopted by the Security Council.

The only way these countries could succeed in any initiative on the subject was to get the approval of the Islamic Republic.

Speaking in an interview with IRNA correspondent, Dr. Rajaie said, "If we do not accept the resolution, only a military solution would be left (to deal with the Persian Gulf crisis), which I do not think they (the six P.G. states) could endure a military solution with the present condition existing in their countries. [sentence as received] We think they better come to their senses."

He said these states were not looking for a pretext to attack the Islamic Republic since, for example, the Saudi Arabian officers and commanders were all members of the royal family and their falmboyant living standards had made war undesirable for them.

The Iranian U.N. ambassador said the proposed resolution which only condemned the Islamic Republic for alleged attacks on shipping would most probably be rejected in the present form.

"The countries which have put forth the proposed resolution can only then succeed when they present a resolution acceptable to us. Therefore if they are interested in not returning to their country empty-handed, their resolution must get the approval of the Islamic Republic."

He said: "If anyone is supposed to be condemned in the final resolution, it should be the attacker, whoever it may be. Of course it is obvious that Iraq would not welcome such a resolution since...from 71 attacks (on ships) so far, only three have been blamed on the Islamic Republic, and so the condemnation would be directed at Iraq."

Iraq Exaggerates Number of Ships Sunk in Gulf

LD310502 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] According to [foreign] news agencies, simultaneously with the UN Security Council session for investigation of the crisis in the Persian Gulf, yesterday the Iraqi regime's news agency officially announced that Iraq has so far sunk 150 ships in the Persian Gulf. This Iraqi claim is made at a time when Lloyd's insurance has referred to the claim as unrealistic and has said that the real figure is much smaller. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the United Nations has declared that 71 ships have been attacked by the Iraqi regime.

Commentaries on Persian Gulf Shipping Attacks

U.S. War Involvement Futile

GF252019 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 May 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] With one voice the million masses today expressed their large-scale rage against the aggressive policy adopted by the United States against the peoples and the countries of the region. These great masses expressed their full rejection of all forms of provocation and aggression against the resources and the capabilities of the Islamic nation under the pretext of defending the sea routes in the Persian Gulf.

The mammoth procession was led by large numbers of Revolutionary Guards dressed in their fighting fatigues and demonstrating their total preparedness to defend the Islamic homeland against the U.S. threats. These processions took place spontaneously, covering all the provinces and responding to the announcement made by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani last week on the readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to stand up to any foreign interference in the Persian Gulf region.

Since last Friday the homeland has witnessed a popular outcry against the regrettable policies of Washington and its agents in the region. This has given the homeland the same status as that of the battlefronts which are waging a ferocious battle with the U.S. arrogance. This popular outcry precedes the inevitable battle. In this battle the benevolent Islamic forces will confront the evil forces which are cruelly attacking the Islamic nation.

The day that Washington has worked for has arrived. In anticipation of this day, Washington held three major maneuvers in Egypt, Sudan, and most recently, along the Gulf coasts in Oman. Awaiting this day, Washington has also established a very large military striking force in order to carry out missions outside the U.S. borders. Previously called the Rapid Deployment Forces, it has been renamed the Central Command.

Today the United States continues its preparations to get directly involved in the war; only the removal of the facade that concealed its continuous aid for the ruling regime in Baghdad is new.

The war with the United States began about 4 years ago. This war will last for yet more years, until the United States gives in to the will of the nation and leaves the people of the region to decide their fate for themselves. The U.S. involvement will not change anything in the course of the battle, because the force which succeeded in defeating Washington along the borders with Iraq [as heard] is also capable of defeating it even if these (?fronts) extend to the farthest point in the Persian Gulf. Since the front along which the Islamic Republic of Iran will fight will be longer than what the ruling circles of the Pentagon expect or imagine, the entire war will be an opportunity for declaring the war against Washington and against its scattered and planted interests and institutions throughout the world.

Gulf States Cautioned

GF271930 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 May 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Only in one case can the catastrophe in the Gulf region be avoided, and that is when the Gulf countries stop supporting the ruling regime in Baghdad and declare their absolute impartiality in the war that is raging between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the ruling Ba'th party in Iraq. Every Gulf official admits that expansion of the war is considered a disaster for the region not just for the present but for the future as well, and that the only way to avert further disaster is for the war to stay far away from the Gulf arena. The question that remains is how to keep the war out of this arena, and what the safest means for preserving the security and stability of the Gulf region is.

In the past, when a war erupted between two states, the efforts of other countries used to be directed toward ending the war in order to reconcile the two parties. However, when the ruling regime in Iraq launched its oppressive aggression against the Islamic Republic, instead of adopting a stance denouncing this aggression or the stance of reconciliation in this war, the region's states stood by the aggressor and provided it with everything it needed in order to continue its aggression toward the Islamic Republic.

The Islamic Republic responded to this hostile stance with more patience and self-restraint and continued to avoid expanding the war or the circle of confrontation with the other states which allied themselves with the aggressive regime. The Islamic Republic continued to strictly adhere to this stance and remained committed to its decision to prevent the spread of war to other countries and parties, even if these countries and parties are allied with the Baghdad regime and even if they consider themselves partners in the war. Although these parties did not prefer to become parties in this war due to their weak resources and inability to face the Islamic revolution, they continued to find themselves pushed toward this option by external factors.

There was a hidden hand which led them into the conflict and threw them into the war machine. This sinister hand was the aggressive tool represented by the ruling regime in Baghdad. This regime did all it could, especially after discovering that it was unable to face the Islamic revolution alone, in order to expand the war and incite the Gulf countries to declare a decision in favor of joining the war against the Islamic Republic. The regime used several means in order to achieve this dream.

It demanded additional economic aid in order to cover its enormous military expenses, and ignited the crisis in the Gulf waters by attacking oil tankers which belonged to countries that were not participants in the war, including the countries of the Persian Gulf; and it has finally requested that these countries openly enter into the fray under the pretext of defending their interests and protecting their independence from an illusive aggression.

This situation leads every person in the Gulf to wonder: Is this evil hand, which has for a long time been seeking to throw the Gulf countries in the war furnace, working for the benefit of the region and the interests of its peoples and countries? And what is the goal that this hand is trying to achieve by carrying the tool of destruction to the remaining regions? Is aggression against the Islamic Republic not enough for it? These are questions for every conscious person living in our Islamic region. The answer to these questions require some sort of realism and requires abandoning non-Islamic nationalism.

Everyone admits that Iraq's rulers are the ones who ignited the war and that the Iraqi regime is the aggressor who deserves to be punished.

If they recognize this fact, why are they allowing this cursed hand to return once more in order to spread destruction and ruination in other parts of our secret Islamic world? Why are some of the Gulf rulers participating in spreading the flames of war to their own countries while they are the ones who fear war? Do they think that these flames will stay away from their palaces?

The problem is that there is a clear contradiction between the stands of these rulers and what they claim they want to do, on the one hand, and what they say and do, on the other. Isn't this fire, which has reached their own houses, a sufficient factor for doing away with this contradiction and making them stand strongly and decisively against every sinister hand which plans evil for the region and plans to undermine the destinies of people, searching for every means with which the Gulf countries can be pushed into the war, even if this could result in the destruction of these countries themselves?

The important thing for Saddam is that he does not lose the war and that he remains the authoritarian ruler of the region. This is what every person who lives on this sacred land knows. Even those who pay, on behalf of this person, millions of dollars to cover the arms deals or to pay the debts [of the Iraqi regime] know this fact. So, if everyone knows who Saddam is and what his method and his evil intentions in the region are, why are they opening doors before him, doors which, if opened, may, God forbid, never be closed again.

We have very great hope that the Islamic community will exercise pressure on its governments in order to close every single opening through which the winds of the Ba'thist regime can penetrate, because they are winds which carry nothing to the region but crusaders' malice and imperialist ambitions.

Superpower Involvement Assailed

GF271156 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 May 84

[Commentary by the research group of the Central News Unit: "What Is the Proper Policy in the Face of the Crisis in the Persian Gulf Waters?"]

[Excerpts] The Ba'thist-Zionist regime in Baghdad, through its new adventurism in the Persian Gulf, seeks to fan and continue the crisis in this region.

During the past few days, there have been several missile attacks on ships in the Persian Gulf waters by this regime. This trend

demonstrates the grand design that Ba'thist Iraq has chosen to execute.

The two superpowers in the East and the West, especially the United States, which is backing this adventurism by the Ba'thist-Zionist regime in Iraq, through their provocative propaganda are trying to delude the states of the southern borders of the Persian Gulf. This is being done even when we have no problem with any of the Persian Gulf states and our defensive policy in face of aggression by the Ba'thist-Zionist regime in Iraq is quite a separate issue.

However, both of the superpowers at this moment show that their interests are identical to those of the Ba'thist Iraqi regime, and as a result, both are stirring up trouble. In this connection, the world imperialist-Zionist propaganda machinery is trying to raise the so-called bogey of the danger the Islamic Republic poses to the Gulf states. This wicked design, which is aimed at aggravating the political situation in the region and involving the states bordering the western part of the Gulf in a harsh confrontation with the Islamic Republic of Iran, can only be part of a greater design that will not merely be a war between the two Muslim peoples of Iran and Iraq.

Although the recent assessment of the situation by the Arab regimes bordering the western part of the Gulf have shown clever responses to the false crisis created by imperialism in the region, some actions of these regimes are nonetheless a matter of concern.

Recently the six GCC member-states lodged a complaint with the UN Security Council regarding the crisis in the Gulf waters and blamed Iran for most of the tension. This was done in spite of the fact that the Islamic Republic has always taken a responsible attitude toward maintaining security in the Gulf and in spite of the obvious fact that the current crisis is due to the aggression committed by the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi regime. Saddam in a recent statement has admitted that Iraq will continue its attack on foreign ships in the Persian Gulf, and that Iraq attaches no importance to protests by international bodies.

If the members of the GCC really want to solve the present crisis in the Gulf, they should turn their attention and their thoughts to Saddam and should condemn the real aggressor. When the Iraqi regime itself says that it will continue its attacks in the Gulf waters, how can one put the blame on the Islamic Republic for the present crisis in the Gulf?

All UN resolutions so far adopted regarding the war have benefited the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Iraq. By taking what amounts to a useless complaint to the UN Security Council, the GCC sets itself up for a veto as well as the condemnation of the Islamic Republic.

If these regimes are really injured by this crisis in the Gulf, as Iran has been, and truly want peace and security in the region, they should uncover the real cause of this crisis. It is advisable, from our point of view, that all those who have interests in the Gulf or benefit from peace in the region should employ all their efforts in a way to find the real cause of the crisis.

However, this much is known by all: The Islamic Republic does not just spout slogans; what it says springs from its policies which are being pursued with all vigor. This fact has even been accepted by the superpowers, who are the real backstage engineers of the crisis in the Gulf waters. The West knows that the Islamic Republic means what it says.

The Islamic Republic, which has enough resources to maintain peace in the Gulf waters and has so far been discharging this duty, can also use these resources for creating insecurity in this region. In this regard, what will really determine the course that the Islamic Republic takes is the interests of our Muslim people and, in the wider context, the interests of all the Muslim peoples in the region.

The West has admitted that Arab reaction has been one of ingratitude toward imperialism's policies. In other words, one can say that U.S. intervention and that of the other powers in the Gulf region will not benefit the sheykhs, but is directed toward their clashing with the Islamic Republic, which could create unlimited crises within their own borders.

In view of this discussion, a way is emerging to solve the Gulf waters crisis which can be taken by anybody who really wants to solve this crisis. The way is that international pressure should be put on the Ba'thist-Zionist regime in Iraq and the people of the world should warn the superpowers backing this regime to end their support and admonish Saddam. The modern weapons which the superpowers have supplied this regime have created the present crisis in the Persian Gulf. Preventing the superpowers from pursuing adventurism and the removal of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Iraq will ensure peace in the region.

Velayati Returns From Visit to Bulgaria

LD310601 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 31 May 84

[Excerpt] Mr Velayati, our country's minister of foreign affairs, who visited Bulgaria at the head of a political-economic delegation, returned to Tehran last night. According to our correspondent, before leaving Sofia our country's minister of foreign affairs replied to various questions of Bulgarian correspondents.

Concerning the outcome of this trip, he said: Our meetings with the Bulgarian president, the prime minister, the foreign minister, and the foreign trade minister resulted in the further understanding of relations between the two countries. During this visit, we invited Mr Grisha Filipov, the prime minister, and Mr Petur Mladenov, the foreign affairs minister of Bulgaria, to visit Iran, and the invitations were accepted.

He added that the commercial and economic outcome of this visit was also positive, saying: Previously, some Iranian officials, including the agriculture minister, the road and transportation minister, and the deputy prime minister had visited Bulgaria, and in return the Bulgarian foreign trade and mining and industry ministers had visited Iran. During these visits, a memorandum of understanding was signed. Presently our oil and non-oil exports to Bulgaria and our imports of Bulgarian agricultural and livestock products have increased.

Mr Velayati went on to say: At present some Bulgarian experts are working in a number of our industrial and agricultural projects, and we hope that after this visit our commercial and economic relations will expand further.

Further Reports on Visit by CSSR Energy Minister

Technical, Economic Agreement Signed

LD301337 Tehran IRNA in English 1021 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 30, IRNA — Minister of Fuel and Power of Czechoslovakia Vlastimil Ehrenberger met and conferred with Minister of Energy Hasan Ghafuri-Fard this morning. The two sides discussed the expansion of economic relations and transfer of technology.

A note of understanding was signed for technical cooperation in the field of water and power, mines, transfer of technology, turbine manufacturing, as well as for expansion of Iran-Czechoslovakia relations in future. The Czech ambassador was also present during the meeting.

Energy Ministers Assess Accord

LD301942 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpts] At the end of the talks held between Iranian and Czechoslovak officials since last Sunday in Tehran, a memorandum of understanding was signed today between Mr Ehrenberger, Czechoslovak minister of fuels and power, and Mr Ghafuri-Fard, Iranian energy minister. We asked Mr Ehrenberger what (?the fields of cooperation) between the two countries are.

[Begin Ehrenberger recording in Czech with superimposed Persian translation] A memo of understanding was signed today which includes possibilities for talks and an expansion of cooperation between the two countries. Of course, a major part of my talks in the Islamic Republic concerned energy and fuel. I think that the possibility for useful and lasting cooperation between Iran and Czechoslovakia in that field exists. I think that cooperation can take place in the field of oil industries, gas industries, coal, production of non-ferrous metals, as well as in new fields such as [words indistinct]. We are prepared to start extensive cooperation, beginning with research, geology, and extraction, up to supplying the relevant machinery. I should point out that non-ferrous metal mines in Iran are among the best of their kind in the world. I believe that it would be beneficial to the Islamic Republic's economy to utilize these non-ferrous metals. [end recording]

I asked Mr Ghafuri-Fard to tell us what facilities Iran and Czechoslovakia can place at each other's disposal according to the agreement signed.

[Begin Ghafuri-Fard recording] [passage indistinct] In the memo of understanding signed today, both sides expressed their desire for technical cooperation, which is undoubtedly in the interests of both countries. We hope to implement it soon, and to invite various experts so that we can continue our cooperation in electricity and water, God willing, in the interests of both nations.

Ehrenberger Discusses Visit, Departs

LD302021 Tehran IRNA in English 1518 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 30, IRNA — The Czech minister of fuel and power, Vlastimil Ehrenberger, who was currently here heading a delegation, left for Prague this morning after signing a letter of understanding with the Islamic Republic authorities during his four-day stay.

Before his departure, in a talk at Mehrabad Airport, he described the results of their trip as satisfactory. He said that following negotiations with Iranian officials, a letter of understanding was signed on cooperation in gas industries, mines and metals, energy and fuel, water and power, transfer of technology, manufacturing of turbines and the relevant energy industries between the two countries.

In a separate talk, Minister of Energy Hasan Ghafuri-Fard said that the two countries have had close economic ties since the coming to power of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He reminded that during a trip to Czechoslovakia last year, he had investigated the technical facilities and various systems in that country, adding that seemingly that country could establish suitable cooperation with the Islamic Republic on the construction of water power stations and relevant projects.

He said that Czechoslovakia would cooperate with the Islamic Republic on the above-mentioned fields.

Talking on the contents of the letter of understanding, Ghafuri-Fard said that in the letter the two sides stressed their mutual desire for the continuation and expansion of cooperation. He also expressed hope that the Czech experts would be used in various water and power projects.

In another development, Mr. Ehrenberger said in an exclusive talk with IRNA here Tuesday that the volume of economic and commercial exchanges between the two countries amounted to 92.2 million dollars during the past year and the most important non-oil commodities the Islamic Republic exported to Czechoslovakia were hides, copper, and carpets.

He added that the economic exchanges between the two countries were carried out in barter trade, and the volume of this cooperation during the past two years was unprecedented in the history of Iran-Czechoslovakia cooperation.

Talking on the oil exports of the Islamic Republic to his country, the Czech minister said that during the past year a one-year contract was signed between the two sides, according to which 700,000 tons of crude oil would be exported to Czechoslovakia during the current year.

Mentioning the existing economic and industrial cooperations between the two countries and the possibilities for their expansion, he said that besides traditional cooperation, Czechoslovakia

cooperated in some economic and industrial projects of Iran such as the sugar and cement factories.

Meanwhile, the Czech minister visited the heat power station of Martyr Salimi, in Neka, in Mazandaran province, at the Caspian sea, Tuesday.

Later [words indistinct] participated in by the Mazandaran governor general and some local officials, at the office of the power station's head.

In a speech at the session, the minister reminded that the two countries could establish joint cooperation in agricultural field. He also mentioned that his trip was aimed at expansion of mutual cooperations in fields affiliated to energy, mines, and industries.

The managing director of Tavanir company, present in the session, said that the Neka power station was one of the most modern heat power stations in the world and its staff and engineers have proven capable of efficiently administering the power station in the shortest period of time.

Majlis Approves Deputies; Assembly Adjourns
LD311101 Tehran IRNA in English 1053 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA — In the open session of the Majlis here today credentials of 70 of the newly elected deputies of the second term of the Majlis were approved.

The deputy from Khorramabad, Lorestan Province, Mohammad-Reza Abbasi, talked about the Iraqi-imposed war and stressed that it must become clear both to the foes and friends that the issue of the war was the utmost important subject for the Majlis.

Further in his speech he urged the Islamic combatants to finish the war victoriously so that the possibilities would be used for promotion and spread of Islamic principles and teachings of the Holy Koran and that the Muslim peoples of Iran and Iraq would live in peace.

The session ended at noon, and the Majlis will not have any session until the 12th of the month of Ramadan, June 12th.

Khomeyni Tells Religious, Political Leaders of Rifts
LD301202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 May 84

[From the news headlines]

[Text] Following the inauguration of the second Majlis and on the eve of the holy month of Ramadan, deputies of the first and the second Majlis, accompanied by members of the central commission in charge of supervizing the elections set up by the Council of Guardians, met with Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in Jamaran Mosque this morning.

During the meeting the imam of the nation emphasized: What I am unhappy about is that in the past some people made certain remarks about the Council of Guardians, and we felt it was our duty to solve the problem in some way. The important thing was that I was afraid of the differences which were arising. Unfortunately, secret hands are at work to make my advice — which was given in order to put an end to the differences — the source of new differences.

Referring to the fact that an unsigned statement has been issued by certain ignorant individuals or by satanic enemies in which, under the remarks which I [as heard] had made about the Council of Guardians, the names of certain honorable and committed individuals were listed who I have known throughout the revolution and who have been supporters of the revolution up to now, the leader of the Islamic Revolution emphasized: What worries me is that following every issue a satan is found who wishes to twist that issue. All problems which will lead to differences are undoubtedly the work of that satan.

Referring to mysterious hands which try to exacerbate the differences existing between people, the imam of the nation emphasized: What worries me is that following every issue a satan is found who wishes to twist that issue [repetition as heard], and I am afraid that in this holy month of Ramadan, the month for self-purification in which Almighty God has invited everyone to his feast, we will act in such a way toward the master of the feast that he will deprive us of his bounty.

Addressing orators, preachers, speakers and Friday prayer imams, the leader of the revolution emphasized: Those who will speak from the pulpits in this holy month or later should know that Islam demands that they should be united, in the same way as the masses of the people are united. If there are differences — and especially if we create differences as the result of our remarks — there will be the fear that on the Day of Judgment we will be in torment while the people are in heaven. They will say to us: "We came to heaven because of you. Why did you go to hell yourselves? This would cause us shame which is worse than hell's fire."

Referring to the enemy propaganda hue and cry about the possibility of intervention in the region by the superpowers, the hope of the world's oppressed emphasized:

We should not be afraid of this hue and cry. America knows it does not have the courage to enter Iran and do something. Their hue and cry is merely a pretext to attempt to frighten us. What we should be afraid of is that their agents inside the country can create differences as the result of their mischievous acts and can create rifts among the ulema of various cities.

Imam Khomeyni pointed out: Differences among the ulema are differences within the nation, not among individuals. If differences arise between two influential ulema in a town and people's eyes and ears are turned toward them, this difference could split the town in two. Gradually it will spread, and this corruption will gradually advance until the day when the country will be ready for an explosion by the agents of our enemies, and we should not ignore this fact.

Referring to slander and accusations by people against one another, the leader of the revolution emphasized: If these people do not have ulterior motives, they should not think they are rendering a service with their action. Rather, it is treason against the entire nation and against Islam. If they are from among the satans, then the nation should open its eyes and ears. At a time when everyone is against us we should not be against each other. Our hostility toward one another will enable the real enemies to defeat all of us and will make everyone's life a misery.

The founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran said: Today Islam is at a juncture in the world that if, God forbid, it is defeated, it will not be able to raise its head for many long years, because the great powers have realized the power of Islam and they know they should destroy it. Even those who are ruling in Islamic countries in the name of Islam are afraid of Iran's Islam. We should open our eyes and ears so that, God forbid, we will not destroy Islam with our own hands.

The imam of the nation emphasized: Those who speak from the pulpits should realize that if they utter one word about past and future elections, and if they say things which will give rise to differences, they will be responsible in the eyes of God Almighty and they will be reprimanded by Islam. The preachers, the speakers at Friday prayers, and ulema everywhere should also pay attention to the fact that today we need to act, in the words of Almighty God, with our entire being, so that we remain united.

Prime Minister Views Government-Majlis Relations

LD301937 Tehran IRNA in English 1318 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 30, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, speaking after the Cabinet ministers session today, expressed the hope that the deputies of the second term of the Majlis, opened Monday, would work towards the continuation of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, just like those of the first term. He also expressed hope that the Majlis would further strengthen the pillars of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Referring to the message of Imam Khomeyni addressed to the deputies of the Majlis, the prime minister said that in this message the imam also referred to the service of the government. Musavi said that the praise of the imam for the service of the government should be taken as a prize for all those who are working in the executive branch. Such people included many unknown who have done their best for materialisation of the objectives of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, he added.

On relation of the government with the Majlis, the prime minister pointed out that the government was dependent on the Majlis and hoped that in future too the government would be able to solve the problems in cooperation with the Majlis.

On appointment of ministers for those ministries which are vacant, he added that as soon as the Majlis was done with the issues such as approval of credentials of the deputies, the new ministers would be introduced to the majlis.

Montazeri Addresses Physicians on Elections Outcome

LD301446 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 30 May 84

[Excerpts] Physicians going on pilgrimage to the Beytollah ol-Haram in Mecca, together with the Vahdat pilgrimage group of Esfahan and a large group of theology students from Yazd, met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday. During the meeting, his excellency praised the work of the physicians during pilgrimages to the house of God and the brothers and sisters in the Vahdat group, and elaborated on fasting as a means of becoming virtuous.

Referring to the elections, his excellency said: The elections have been held; some candidates have been elected and some have not. Naturally, there is some bad feeling and despondency among the supporters. But such confrontations and their results should not be intensified; various groups should not spread rumors or make trouble between themselves every day. Such acts, as well as disturbing the unity of the nation and involving the people in disruptive issues, prepare the ground for infiltration by the enemies of Islam and the agents of the United States and the USSR inside the country.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri emphasized: The United States and the USSR can never defeat our revolution by military, political, or economic means. What is dangerous for our revolution — which the enemies of Islam would use to infiltrate our country — is to fuel the fire of the differences created after the elections. If the candidates and those who supported them did so for the sake of God and to serve Islam and the people, then all is well. If their candidates have been elected, they have accepted a heavy duty and should guard and protect the divine mission with which they have been entrusted. But if they nominated themselves or supported other candidates for anything but God, then they have been [word indistinct] because they have sold their religion and conscience for worldly gains. This is a great misfortune for man. Therefore, now that the elections have ended, it is in the interests of Islam and of the revolution to do away with all the bad feelings or issues of the past. As before, we should walk the path of revolution with unity and in unison. We should realize that the slightest accusation or any rumor-mongering creating an adverse climate or slandering persons and personalities who are committed and serve the revolution is a great sin.

His excellency then asked physicians residing abroad not to remain overseas any longer. He said they can be sure that if they intend to serve their country and their people, our nation and our government will welcome them. They should not be deceived by the propaganda and utterances of the enemies of Islam and the revolution. They should not imagine that people are being killed or beheaded on the streets in Iran. Even if they are not religiously committed, they should act like men and should return to their country to serve. Nobody will bother them, and they will be provided with all the facilities available under the present wartime situation.

Khamene'i: People To Reconstruct War-Torn Areas

LD302031 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 30, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i today expressed hope that the Ba'th regime in Iraq would soon be silenced, and that the cities destroyed by the Iraqi Army will be reconstructed by the people themselves.

Speaking to officials responsible for the reconstruction of the areas destroyed in the Iraqi-imposed war, the president said that many people had thought that once the war ends, then the Islamic Republic would ask [for] large international cooperation to reconstruct the destroyed areas, but Imam Khomeyni, who has deep faith in the people, had suggested that people themselves would solve the problems.

Imam Khomeyni believes that with the help of the people it is possible to solve all problems and remove the greatest obstacles from the path of the revolution, he added.

Speaking on the role of the people in the war fronts and in confronting the anti-revolutionary groups, the president said that it was the presence of the popular forces that caused the war to progress and changed the battle in Iran's favor. He added that the help of the people from all corners of the country had created a powerful bond between them. Furthermore, he added that areas reconstructed by the people will become an expression of their religious and cultural beliefs.

The president also expressed the hope that the enemy would be silenced soon and the people would become able to rebuild the devastated cities.

President Lauds Armed Forces

LD310630 Tehran IRNA in English 0625 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i in an epaulet investiture ceremony for the graduates of the Officers College Wednesday lauded the Armed Forces, saying that the Islamic Republic of Iran's army was moving towards a "modern Islamic army."

Khamene'i added: "We repeatedly announced that we do not arm our forces merely to attack others, but rather, we do that only to efface vestiges of oppressive powers from the world."

It is the Islamic Republic, he further said, that seeks every ways and means in an effort to free the masses throughout the world from oppression.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,742

LD301744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 May 84

[Communique No 1,742 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Yesterday, throughout the battlefronts, exchanges of artillery and heavy-weapons fire continued sporadically between our forces and the enemy. By setting up observation posts and dispatching patrol groups, the combatants of Islam with full vigilance brought the movements of the Iraqi forces under surveillance and control.

According to reports from operational headquarters, as a result of the fire of the combatants of Islam, losses and casualties were inflicted upon the enemy on every front. On most fronts the combatants of Islam enjoyed fire-power superiority. Air defense units foiled all enemy air raid attempts.

In the past 2 days a considerable number of enemy personnel on various fronts gave themselves up to the Iranian forces. In the (Chazzabeh) region an enemy unit which was involved in completing and setting up defensive positions came under the artillery fire of the combatants of the Ground Forces; as a result, several of its men were killed and the rest fled.

In the course of exchanges of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts the heroes of the Gendarmerie, by returning fire, silenced the fire of the Iraqi forces, gained control over the movements of the enemy's military vehicles on the Al-Faw-Basra axis and stopped them, destroyed a number of enemy positions, trenches, and foxholes, and killed or wounded a number of enemy personnel.

Yesterday, as a result of the fire of the Iraqi forces on the city of Abadan, several houses and shops and one high school were damaged. One of our beloved compatriots was martyred and another wounded.

Gendarmerie Commander on Rebels, Drugs, Security

LD301757 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 My 84

[Text] Colonel Kuchakzadeh, commander of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, announced in a news conference today: The Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran is at present taking part in regular operations with 2 divisions, made up of 12 battalions, side by side with other Islamic troops south and west of the country and waging war against the Saddamist mercenaries, and is also playing a major role in irregular warfare using an extremely powerful force with three divisions in Kordestan and Western Azarbayjan.

Referring to the Qa'em Operation, which began on 17 May in Kordestan and Western Azarbayjan Provinces, the Gendarmerie commander said: These successful operations, which have begun and still continue with the assistance of the Islamic forces, have produced valuable results, so much so that so far 200 counterrevolutionaries and a number of their ringleaders have been killed, 40 surrendered together with their arms and ammunition, and 21 gave themselves up at Gendarmerie bases.

Colonel Kuchakzadeh then referred to the problem of smuggling, saying: Combating of smuggling is continuing throughout the country, particularly in the eastern part of the country, and in the past year the Gendarmerie discovered 11 tons of narcotics.

At the conclusion of the conference he said the following about the country's security: The Jond Allah patrols, made up of 260 teams, have begun their activities and so far have played an extremely active role. After the holy month of Ramadan, a special security plan will be put into operation on the highways.

Ground Forces Chief Discusses War With Iraq

LD291957 Tehran IRNA in English 1527 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 29, IRNA — Colonel 'Ali Sayyad Shirazi, commander of the Islamic Republic Ground Forces, who was on a tour of Shiraz for inauguration of the different ranks of the new training courses in the army, left Shiraz Monday afternoon.

The Ground Forces commander before leaving Shiraz talked about his visit and the new training courses.

He said that before starting each new training course, educational centres are inspected. He added that during these inspection visits, discussions are held with students and teachers on different fields.

With regard to superpowers' plots and crimes in relation to the military threats and internationalisation of the Iraqi-imposed war against Iran, Colonel Sayyad Shirazi said that our enemies would like this war to appear as a war between Arabs and non-Arabs, while this war which was initiated by Saddam is a war between Islam and universal blasphemy. Since Islam is universal, therefore, global blasphemy's plots are against the Islamic Revolution, Sayyad Shirazi said.

The U.S. and USSR and other super criminals are trying through their lackeys such as Saddam to confront the Islamic Revolution, even though, he noted, they are unaware of the fact that they have been themselves dragged into the confrontation. Despite the fact they are trying desperately not to get directly involved in the war, it is unavoidable, he added.

Speaking on propaganda of media of the East and West against the Islamic Revolution, Colonel Sayyad Shirazi said that these days enemies are employing their whole endeavors in this regard against Iran. He further noted that such propaganda has recently increased many times over.

Sayyad Shirazi said that the recent meeting of the commanders of the Armed Forces and Revolutionary Guards Corps with the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeyni, was very fruitful and constructive.

Basij, IRGC Forces Depart for Battlefronts

LD310538 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] The dispatch of our country's brave young men to the battlefront against the Zionist enemy continues. In this connection, during the past 2 days a large group of self-sacrificing basij [mobilization] forces and members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps from the Bushehr, Hormozgan, Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad and Fars Provinces and the cities of Kashan, Golara, Dar Shur, and Khomeyni-Shahr left for the battlefronts. Also during the same period, large groups of technicians, the brother experts in various fields, left for the war-stricken zones in order to assist in reconstruction of these regions.

Antigovernment Demonstration Held in N. Iraq

LD302057 Tehran IRNA in English 1853 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] Ahvaz, May 30, IRNA — In an anti-government demonstration by tens of thousands of people in the northern Iraqi town of Sulaymaniyah last Friday, a group of demonstrators seized a number of rifles from the government security men and killed ten of them.

According to an independent source, more than 50,000 demonstrators shouted anti-Saddam slogans protesting against Baghdad's repressive measures, burnt government vehicles and the Ba'th Party's office on their way.

A number of demonstrators seized several automatic rifles and three antiaircraft guns on the roof of a police station and clashed with security forces who had surrounded the demonstrators.

In the clash, ten security men, including the deputy commander of the so-called People's Army and three officers, were killed while tens of demonstrators were also wounded or martyred.

Judicial Council Members Comment on Seminar

GF311002 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Members of the Supreme Judicial Council held a radio-television press conference yesterday and answered questions asked by the local correspondents on the judicial seminar of the country. Mr Musavi-Ardabili, chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council, reviewed the work of the seminar and its aims and purposes, saying: We wanted to know about the work of the judiciary throughout the country and the activities of different sections of the judiciary. We also wanted to know the difficulties faced in administration of justice on the country level, the quality of the work of the judicial authorities, and the statistics on the work performed. Similarly, we wanted to exchange views with the authorities and workers and find ways and means to resolve the difficulties and to pave the way for holding an international judiciary seminar.

In continuation of this conference Mr Mir Mohammadi, a member of the Supreme Judicial Council, explained the way the seminar was held. Nine commissions which had been set up worked for 4 days, the duration of the seminar, discussing various problems related to the judiciary. He said: I think that if such seminars are held on the country level, they would help in solving most of the difficulties.

In reply to a question on the results of the seminar, another member of the Supreme Judicial Council, Mr Moqtada'i, who is also a spokesman for the Council, said that one of the results of the seminar was the collection of all the related material from throughout the country, its discussion in a gathering, and an

exchange of views on the difficulties. This was essential to keep unanimity in the judicial matters.

Another member of the Supreme Judicial Council, Mr Bojnurdi, in answer to a question said that the personnel shortage in the judicial cadre was also discussed and that this shortage is natural, because these matters relate to specialization and will be resolved gradually.

In continuation of this press conference, Mr Sane'i, the chief prosecutor, talked about the programs of an international judiciary seminar which is to be held in our country, noting: First, we want to tell those who say that there is no proper judiciary in Iran that everything in Iran is normal, and in fact this invitation to the world lawyers testifies to the authenticity of this claim. Secondly, we want to explain to them the dimensions of the laws of Islam and say that what has been gained now was fully covered by the laws of Islam 14 centuries ago.

In another part of his speech he said: A judge in Islam holds a very high position, and we beg somebody to come forward and accept this job. On my own behalf, I kiss the feet of the clergy so that they will come forward to become judges, because in the rest of the world people work hard to get these jobs.

20 Narcotics Smugglers, Dealers Tried, Executed

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[Text] The courts of the Islamic Revolution Public Prosecutor's Anti-Narcotics Office issued decisive and revolutionary verdicts on 20 smugglers and merchants of death, sentencing them to death on charges of membership of various narcotics-smuggling domestic and international gangs, supplying and distributing 14,996 kg of opium and long records of narcotic dealing. They were hanged at dawn today in the city of Nahavand. The names of those executed are as follows:

Gholam Hoseyn Kiyani, son of Heydar 'Ali; Morad 'Ali Kiyani, son of Heydar; Gholam Kiyani, son of Dust 'Ali; 'Ali Taqi Dasturi, son of 'Ali Heydar; Shokrollah Kiyani, son of Yarollah; 'Aziz Kiyani, son of Qodrat; 'Ali Kiyani, son of Gholam Reza, alias Mirza; Karamollah Kiyani, son of Yusof; Havad Kiyani, son of Chaharshanbeh; Ahmad Hoseyn Kiyani, son of Heydar 'Ali; Sadeq Salanchi, son of Gholam Hoseyn; 'Alizadeh Kiyani, son of Namdar; Mohammad Taqi Khoshnudiyan, son of Ramazan; Reza Kiyani, son of 'Abbas; Esfandiyar 'Abbasi, son of Eskandar; Mohammad Reza Kiyani, son of Yusof; Ahmad Kiyani, son of Hasan; 'Ali Ashraf Kiyani, son of Hasan Reza; Reza Zafari, son of Gholam Reza; Farhang Kiyani, son of Habibollah.